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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/625,045	07/23/2003	Timothy Robinson	129510.00001	1087
21269	7590	08/11/2006	EXAMINER	
PEPPER HAMILTON LLP ONE MELLON CENTER, 50TH FLOOR 500 GRANT STREET PITTSBURGH, PA 15219				ELISCA, PIERRE E
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3621	

DATE MAILED: 08/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/625,045	ROBINSON, TIMOTHY
	Examiner Pierre E. Elisca	Art Unit 3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 July 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-103 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-103 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to Application No. 10/625,045 filed on 07/23/2003.

2. Claims 1-103 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-103 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Hoffman et al US 2005/0144133 A1 in view of Denimarck et al US 2003/0018522 A1.

As per claim 1 and 4-15 Hoffman discloses a tokenless biometric for processing electronic transmissions, using at least one user biometric sample, an electronic identifier and an electronic rule module clearinghouse, the method comprising: Receiving, at an unattended age verification station, at least one biometric sample proffered by the age presenter via a biometric identification device, sending the at least one biometric sample to at least one database, wherein the at least one database has at least one biometric record stored therein, wherein the at least one biometric record contains a reference of the age presenter's age, comparing, at the at least one database, the at least one biometric sample to the at least one biometric record stored

in the at least one database, making a first determination, at the at least one database, whether the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, in the event the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, making a second determination whether the age presenter's age information in the reference meets at least one system parameter (or rule), receiving, at the unattended age verification station, confirmation of the age-restricted transaction approval (see., abstract, figs 2- 7, [0037], [0042], [0049], [0237], [0238], [0239]).

Hoffman fails to explicitly disclose the limitation wherein said in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the at least one system parameter (parameter or rule) approving the age-restricted transaction. However, Denimarck discloses in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the transaction rules (or parameter) see., Denimarck, [0076], and [0087]. Therefore, it would to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the tokenless biometric of Hoffman by including the limitation detailed above as taught by Denimarck because this would eliminate having to carry personal identification.

As per claim 2, Hoffman discloses the claimed method wherein the at least one system parameter is defined by the age verification station (see., figs 1, 2 and 7).

As per claim 3, Hoffman discloses the claimed method wherein the at least one biometric sample comprises at least one of a fingerprint scan, an iris scan, a facial scan,

a voice scan, a retinal scan, a hand architecture scan, a vein pattern scan, a signature sample, and a DNA sample (see., Hoffman, [0010].

As per claims 16, 18 and 20-31 Hoffman discloses a tokenless biometric for processing electronic transmissions, using at least one user biometric sample, an electronic identicator and an electronic rule module clearinghouse, the method comprising: Receiving, at an unattended age verification station, at least one biometric sample proffered by the age presenter via a biometric identification device, sending the at least one biometric sample to at least one database, wherein the at least one database has at least one biometric record stored therein, wherein the at least one biometric record contains a reference of the age presenter's age, comparing, at the at least one database, the at least one biometric sample to the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, making a first determination, at the at least one database, whether the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, in the event the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, making a second determination whether the age presenter's age information in the reference meets at least one system parameter (or rule), receiving, at the unattended age verification station, confirmation of the age-restricted transaction approval (see., abstract, figs 2- 7, [0037], [0042], [0049], [0237], [0238], [0239]). Hoffman fails to explicitly disclose the limitation wherein said in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the at least one system parameter

(parameter or rule) approving the age-restricted transaction. However, Denimarck discloses in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the transaction rules (or parameter) see., Denimarck, [0076], and [0087]. Therefore, it would to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the tokenless biometric of Hoffman by including the limitation detailed above as taught by Denimarck because this would eliminate having to carry personal identification.

As per claim 17, Hoffman discloses the claimed method wherein the at least one system parameter is defined by the age verification station (see., figs 1, 2 and 7).

As per claim 19, Hoffman discloses the claimed method wherein the at least one biometric sample comprises at least one of a fingerprint scan, an iris scan, a facial scan, a voice scan, a retinal scan, a hand architecture scan, a vein pattern scan, a signature sample, and a DNA sample (see., Hoffman, [0010]).

As per claims 32, 33, 36-48, 51-62 and 65-103 Hoffman discloses a tokenless biometric for processing electronic transmissions, using at least one user biometric sample, an electronic identifier and an electronic rule module clearinghouse, the method comprising:

Receiving, at an unattended age verification station, at least one biometric sample proffered by the age presenter via a biometric identification device, sending the at least one biometric sample to at least one database, wherein the at least one database has

at least one biometric record stored therein, wherein the at least one biometric record contains a reference of the age presenter's age, comparing, at the at least one database, the at least one biometric sample to the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, making a first determination, at the at least one database, whether the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, in the event the at least one biometric sample matches the at least one biometric record stored in the at least one database, making a second determination whether the age presenter's age information in the reference meets at least one system parameter (or rule), receiving, at the unattended age verification station, confirmation of the age-restricted transaction approval (see., abstract, figs 2- 7, [0037], [0042], [0049], [0237], [0238], [0239]).

Hoffman fails to explicitly disclose the limitation wherein said in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the at least one system parameter (parameter or rule) approving the age-restricted transaction. However, Denimarck discloses in the event the age information mapped to said biometric record meets the transaction rules (or parameter) see., Denimarck, [0076], and [0087]. Therefore, it would to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the tokenless biometric of Hoffman by including the limitation detailed above as taught by Denimarck because this would eliminate having to carry personal identification.

As per claims 34, 35, 49, 50, 63 and 64 Hoffman discloses the claimed method wherein the at least one biometric sample comprises at least one of a fingerprint scan, an iris

scan, a facial scan, a voice scan, a retinal scan, a hand architecture scan, a vein pattern scan, a signature sample, and a DNA sample (see., Hoffman, [0010].

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 571 272 6706. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 571 272 6712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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Pierre Eddy Elisca

Primary Patent Examiner

July 29, 2006